

P.B.5818 - Patentiaan 2 2280 HV Rijswijk (ZH) 2 +31 70 340 2040 TX 31651 epo nl FAX +31 70 340 3016 Europäisches Patentamt

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Département à La Haye Division de la

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Anmeldung Nr/Application No/Demande nº/Patent Nr /Patent No/Brevet nº.

03290002.9-1243-

Anmelder/Applicant/Demandeur/Patentinhabet/Proprietor/Tituiaire
Texas Instruments Incorporated, et al

COMMUNICATION

The European Patent Office herewith transmits as an enclosure the European search report for the above-mentioned European patent application.

If applicable, copies of the documents cited in the European search report are attached.

Additional set(s) of copies of the documents cited in the European search report is (are) enclosed as well.

The following specifications given by the applicant have been approved by the Search Division:

Abstract

X title

☐ The abstract was modified by the Search Division and the definitive text is attached to this communication.

The following figure will be published together with the abstract:

1

REFUND OF THE SEARCH FEE

If applicable under Articl 10 Rules relating to fees, a separate communication from the Receiving Section on the refund of the search fee will be sent later.



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LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION SHEET B

Application Number EP 03 29 0002

The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:

1. Claims: 1-3, 5-7, 9, 10

random key generation with detection of undesirable random numbers

2. Claims: 4, 8

random key generation with detection of writing errors



CLAIMS INCURRING FEES
The present European patent application comprised at the time of filing more than ten claims.
Only part of the claims have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims and for those claims for which claims fees have been paid, namely claim(s):
No claims fees have been paid within the prescribed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for the first ten claims.
LACK OF UNITY OF INVENTION
The Search Division considers that the present European patent application does not comply with the requirements of unity of invention and relates to several inventions or groups of inventions, namely:
see sheet B
All further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for all claims.
As all searchable claims could be searched without effort justifying an additional fee, the Search Division did not invite payment of any additional fee.
Only part of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the inventions in respect of which search fees have been paid, namely claims:
None of the further search fees have been paid within the fixed time limit. The present European search report has been drawn up for those parts of the European patent application which relate to the invention first mentioned in the claims, namely claims:

ANNEX TO THE EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT ON EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION NO.

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This annex lists the patent family members relating to the patent documents cited in the above-mentioned European search report. The members are as contained in the European Patent Office EDP file on

The European Patent Office is in no way liable for these particulars which are merely given for the purpose of information.

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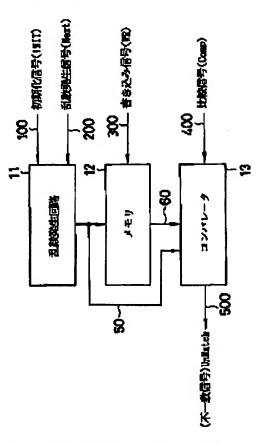
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TITLE

LOW VOLTAGE DETECTING CIRCUIT

AND MICROCOMPUTER



ABSTRACT:

PROBLEM TO BE SOLVED: To stabilize the operation of a microcomputer by preventing the microcomputer from being reset until the normal operating border voltage of the microcomputer.

SOLUTION: A random number generated in a prescribed cycle from a random number generating circuit 11 is written in a memory 12. The random number written in the memory 12 is read, and compared with the original number generated from the random generation circuit 11 by a comparator 13. The random number generating circuit 11 and the comparator 13 have a low threshold value Vg which is the same as that of a microcomputer which is not shown in a figure, and the memory 12 has a little higher threshold value Vm than the threshold value Vq. Therefore, when an operating voltage VDD of the microcomputer and a low voltage detecting circuit is decreased to a voltage between the threshold values Vm and Vq, the malfunction of the memory 12 is operated. and the comparator 13 outputs an unmatch signal 500 for resetting the microcomputer. The threshold value Vm is set a little higher than the threshold value Vg so that the microcomputer can be reset until the operating voltage VDD is decreased to a voltage extremely close to the operable border voltage of the microcomputer.

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